

NAVAL MESSAGE

CONFIDENTIAL

NAVY DEPARTMENT

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03 DEC 1958	0026Z/03DEC58	NAYLOR		JA/NA/Ad	

4726

021407Z DEC 1958

(DATE/TIME GROUP (GCT))

PRECEDENCE

(ACT) (INFO)

☐ FLASH ☐

☐ EMERGENCY ☐

☐ OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE ☐

☐ PRIORITY ☐ 50X1

☐ ROUTINE ☐

☐ IMMEDIATE ☐

FROM: COMIDEASTFOR

TO: CNO

INFO: CINCNELM//FLEINTCENELM//ALUSNA TEHRAN//ALUSNA BAGHDAD

50X1

RECENT PRESS ITEMS FROM BAGHDAD AND OFFICIAL REPORTS FROM TEHRAN INDICATE INCREASING FRICTION BETWEEN IRAQ AND IRAN VARIOUS ISSUES WHICH CONTROL OF SHATT AL ARAB RIVER REMAINS POTENTIALLY ONE OF MOST SERIOUS. IT APPEARS NOW IRAQ GOVT INTERPRETS TREATY AGREEMENT REGARDING NAVIGATION RIGHTS ON SHATT DIFFERENTLY FROM OLD GOVT, AND IRAN MAY RENOUNCE TREATY ALTOGETHER. IN VIEW THIS POTENTIALLY EXPLOSIVE ISSUE, REQUEST BACKGROUND AND CURRENT INFO FROM ONI OR STATE ON HISTORICAL CONTROVERSY CONCERNING INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL RIGHTS ON SHATT AL ARAB AND PRESENT U S POSITION. SPECIFICALLY DESIRE BRIEF ANSWERS TO FOL QUESTIONS IF AVAILABLE

- A. HIGHLIGHTS OF TREATY BETWEEN IRAQ AND IRAN DATED ABOUT 1937 CONCERNING USE OF SHATT AL ARAB.
- B. ANY DISPUTES OVER NAVIGATION RIGHTS ON SHATT SINCE TREATY DRAWN UP.
- C. ANY TRADITION OR PRECEDENT INVOLVING CONTROL OF SHATT WHICH WOULD TEND TO FAVOR THE CLAIM OF ONE NATION OVER THE OTHER.

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92...ACT ADD: STATE..CIA..ARMY..AF..JCS..NIC PER 92 12/3/58/RH

SECNAV..00..09..09M..03..CONFIDENTIAL..BFR..FLAG PLOT..CNO/OOD

33..06..60..60TF..61..CR.. (When filled in) cmc

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